

## George Brown – Sequencer and Multi-Level Keyer



### George Brown Video Sequencer

Developed in 1972. The Video Sequencer allowed the operator to switch between two video sources at the field or frame rate of the video signal. Significantly, this allowed for extremely rapid switching, which appeared as the two images combined in various ways. Because it occurred during the vertical interval, the switching was "invisible", so the images were not disrupted by interference. The switching process could also be triggered by external signals, often an audio signal generated by another machine. The machine was the result of investigations by Woody and Steina Vasulka, George Brown and Alfons Schilling, on binocular vision and imagery.

### George Brown Multi-Level Keyer

Developed in 1973 and based on earlier experiments. Jeffrey Schier described the Multi-Level Keyer as a digital sequencer which controlled an analog video keyer. The device allowed six video sources, which could be assigned a particular layer of the image. These planes could be manipulated and layered, into a single video output. The device was constructed for Woody Vasulka and Steina Vasulka. The sequences were programmed by means of an external keyboard, and the program controlled by external signals. The keyer was a "priority" keyer, allowing the user to design the relative placement of the layers from front to back. In 1977 a computer interface was added.

George Brown also modified commercial equipment, allowing the user greater flexibility over image composition. He worked with Alan and Susan Raymond as a Technical Consultant on "The Police Tapes", (1976) an independently produced verite documentary of police activity in the South Bronx, broadcast by WNET-TV.